

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL
HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM

2021 District Plan Item No. HH060
HERITAGE ITEM NAME former Jennings/Ivory cottage
ADDRESS 66B Ivory Street, Rangiora
PHOTOGRAPH



(www)

DISTRICT PLAN ITEM NO. H065 **HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY** 3779 / 2
(at time of assessment)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION Lot 2 DP 59835

VALUATION NUMBER 2165429400A

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION c.1886?

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/
BUILDER** W Charles Jennings, designer/builder?

STYLE Square-plan villa

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Single-storey dwelling with irregular rectangular footprint and hipped, centre gutter roof. Principal, west-facing elevation has central entry flanked by double-hung sash windows; straight veranda with ornamental latticed posts, bracketed eaves, rusticated weatherboards and quoins. Lean-to at rear (east elevation).

MATERIALS/STRUCTURE

Timber framing and weatherboard cladding, corrugated metal roofing.

ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS

Lean-to extension to the south (c.1975?). Erection of another dwelling at rear of cottage (c.1990?).

SETTING

The dwelling stands on the east side of Ivory Street; south of its intersection with Doggett Place and close by the intersection with Queen Street. A single garage and paling fence define the road boundary of the property. The extent of scheduling is limited to the immediate surrounds of the cottage rather than the land parcel as a whole, notwithstanding the potential archaeological values of the entire site.

HISTORY

(William) Charles Jennings (1818-89) purchased part of RS 385 from JI Doggett, to whom he was related, in 1878. Jennings was a carpenter who had emigrated from England with his wife Sarah (nee Ivory) in 1857 to join other family members in Rangiora. It appears likely that Jennings, who lived on the west side of Ivory Road in the vicinity of Buckham Street, built the cottage for his son Charles Ivory Jennings (1860-1947). Jennings junior married Margaret Stapleforth in 1886, the same year in which he purchased the property from his father. The couple had three children and CI Jennings's occupation was variously given as a stationer and journalist in the 1890s. He went on to become a stalwart of Rangiora's governmental and civic life, serving two terms as mayor (1896-98 & 1914-21) amongst other leadership roles, and was awarded an MBE for services to the municipality in 1947. The Ivory Street property was subdivided and the subject site sold to William Ivory in 1899, the CI Jennings family taking up residence in Ashley Street. Ivory, who was also related to the Jennings, was the proprietor of the Rangiora Nursery in Ivory Street. After his death the property was acquired by Frederick Fennell, a gardener, in 1911. The house remained in Fennell family ownership into the 1960s and has passed through other hands since. A second dwelling was erected at the rear of the property in the late 20th century; the former Jennings cottage remains in private residential use.

HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former Jennings/Ivory cottage has historical significance for its association with Charles Ivory Jennings and his family and, more generally, the later 19th century residential development of Rangiora. CI Jennings was the first local-born man to serve as Mayor of Rangiora and Hawkins records in his history of the town that towards the end of his life Jennings was known as 'Pa Jennings', the father of Rangiora. The cottage is also notable for its association with the inter-related Doggett, Jennings, and Ivory families and their contribution to the colonial beginnings of Rangiora.

CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former Jennings/Ivory cottage has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its early owner/occupiers.

ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE

The former Jennings/Ivory cottage has architectural significance as a late Victorian cottage in the square-plan villa style. The dwelling is typical of its era but also demonstrates a higher level of ornamentation on the façade that is consistent with a builder designing a house for either himself or family members.

TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE

The former Jennings/Ivory cottage has technological and craftsmanship value for the evidence it provides of late 19th century building methods and materials. W Charles Jennings was a carpenter, cabinet maker and undertaker in Rangiora from 1857 until the c.1874, at which time he became a stationer and bookseller, in to which business his son followed. The cottage is presumed to be a late example of Jennings senior's construction work expressly built for a family member.

CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former Jennings/Ivory cottage has contextual significance as a local historic feature close to the town centre. The cottage is close to the former Keir house at 62 Ivory Street (H058) and also relates to the Jennings villa on the south side of the corner of Ashley Street and Jennings Place.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE

As the cottage pre-dates 1900 its site has potential archaeological significance relating to the colonial development and use of the property.

SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The former Jennings/Ivory cottage has overall significance to Rangiora and the Waimakariri district as a whole. The dwelling has historical significance for its association with CI Jennings and his immediate and extended family, as well as the residential development of Rangiora, and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its early residents. The former Jennings/Ivory cottage has architectural significance as a late Victorian square-plan villa designed by its builder and technological and craftsmanship value for its timber construction and detailing. The former Jennings/Ivory cottage has contextual significance as a local historic feature; its site has potential archaeological significance in view of the dwelling's age.

HERITAGE CATEGORY

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REFERENCES

- *Press* 6 May 1889, p. 6.
- *Star* 4 May 1889, p. 2; 29 October 1889, p. 2.
- *Lyttelton Times* 9 June 1860, p. 6; 10 April 1899, p. 1.
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/3779>
- DN Hawkins *Rangiora: the passing years and people in a Canterbury country town* Rangiora, 1993; available online.
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- <https://www.geni.com/people/Charles-Jennings-MBE/6000000029228899429>
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REPORT COMPLETED

21 March 2019

AUTHOR

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Extent of scheduling, limited to immediate setting, former Jennings/Ivory cottage, 66B Ivory Street, Rangiora.